

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 INRE-00 SSO-00 MC-02

IGA-02 AID-05 ACDA-10 ACDE-00 /068 W

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O R 101535Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2647

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CINCAD ENT AFB COLO/LGTT

21ST AF MCGUIRE AFB NEW JERSEY

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 1543

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI US GL DA

SUBJ: DANISH REQUEST TO TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS TO GREENLAND
FROM MCGUIRE

REF: A) CINCAD 052005Z MAY 76; B) COPENHAGEN 1521 DTG
061514Z MAY 76 C) STATE 112237 DTG 081527Z MAY 76; D) DAO
330 DTG 051512Z MAY 76; E) COPENHAGEN A-27 OF MARCH 26, 1976.

SUMMARY: THIS TELEGRAM STATES CASE FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT
OF HELICOPTER FROM MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE TO GREENLAND ON
CHANNEL AIR LIFT. DANISH GOVERNMENT'S ROYAL GREENLAND TRADE
COMMISSION WILL PAY COSTS WHATEVER THEY ARE. DEPARTMENT IS
REQUESTED TO REVIEW ITS PREVIOUS RESPONSE AND REPLY AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT DEPARTMENT WAS NOT IN POSSESSION OF
REF A WHEN STATE 112237 (REF C) WAS PREPARED.

2. REF D OUTLINED URGENCY OF THIS MATTER AND REF A
STATED THAT DESIGNATION OF THIS SHIPMENT AS "NATIONAL
INTEREST TRAFFIC" BY HEAD OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT SHOULD
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BE ARRANGED THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT CHANNELS IN ORDER

TO PERMIT POSITIVE DECISION ON THE REIMBURSABLE SHIPMENT OF HELICOPTERS IN RESPONSE TO DANISH GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST.

3. FROM ABOVE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT STATE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF SHIPMENT, WHETHER AS "NATIONAL INTEREST TRAFFIC" OR NOT, IN MEMORANDUM TO SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE IS WHAT IS NEEDED. WE DO NOT DOUBT THAT PROPOSED CARGO DESERVES THE "NATIONAL INTEREST TRAFFIC" DESIGNATION (SEE REF E) "THE UNITED STATES AND GREENLAND", DESCRIBING OUR SITUATION THERE). WE ARE ALSO MINDFUL OF AIR RESCUE ROLE AND SERVICES TO OUR OTHER INTERESTS (SEE STATE 108991) WHICH THESE HELICOPTERS WILL PROVIDE. BUT IT IS IMPORTANT NOW TO GET HELICOPTERS SHIPPED PROMPTLY.

4. FIRST HELICOPTER, NOW AT MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, COULD BE SHIPPED ON CHANNEL AIR LIFT ON WEDNESDAY OR, CERTAINLY, THIS WEEK, AND ARRIVE IN GREENLAND IN TIME TO BEGIN OPERATIONS, AS THE DANISH GOVERNMENT DESIRES, MAY 17. HELICOPTER WILL PROVIDE AMBULANCE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE AS WELL AS OTHER COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN CITIES ON EAST COAST OF GREENLAND. IT WILL ALSO OFFER AIR-SEA RESCUE SERVICE INTERNATIONALLY. WITH SECOND HELICOPTER, SCHEDULED TO GO INTO SERVICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN THULE AREA, THIS HELICOPTER WILL BE ONE OF ONLY TWO AVAILABLE FOR THESE IMPORTANT DUTIES UNTIL APPROXIMATELY JUNE 15. IF OUR ASSISTANCE IS NOT FORTHCOMING, DANES WILL HAVE TO FLY AIRCRAFT FROM DENMARK WITH ATTENDANT COMPLICATIONS THIS BRINGS SINCE NO COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE FROM UNITED STATES TO GREENLAND.

5. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT ONLY DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION IS REQUIRED TO PUT SHIPMENTS IN TRAIN. QUESTION OF WHETHER THESE SHIPMENTS CAN BE CONSIDERED "NATIONAL INTEREST SHIPMENTS" MAY BE DELAYED, IF NECESSARY, BUT HELICOPTERS OUGHT TO BE SHIPPED RIGHT AWAY. BILLS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED UNDER EIGHTH CATEGORY TO THE ROYAL GREENLAND TRADE DEPARTMENT.

6. AS A MATTER FURTHER IMPACTING ON US INTERESTS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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OF IMPORTANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE DANES IS THE MATTER TREATED IN STATE TELEGRAM 108991. OTHER SIMILAR SENSITIVE MATTERS RELATING TO OUR INTERESTS IN GREENLAND COULD BE AFFECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S ACTION ON THIS MATTER.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECONSIDER THIS MATTER IN LIGHT OF INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE WITH

THE OBJECT OF OBTAINING, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE URGENT DANISH REQUEST. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF DEPARTMENT'S AND AIR FORCE'S DECISION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, HELICOPTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COPENH01543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760179-1232
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760573/aaaacknd.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COPENHAGEN 1521
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH REQUEST TO TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS TO GREENLAND FROM MCGUIRE
TAGS: MILI, US, GL, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006